

of an effort to expand government. And this is kind of a dirty little secret right now. Control over the vast sectors I just mentioned are all being done under the guise of Big Tech. Giving these agencies broader authority is not really going to do anything to enhance competition, so what we see is the heavy hand of government, which is right now crushing small business with the one-size-fits-all mandates, also allowing these agencies more authority over the economy.

This will make government ultimately less accountable. Rather than promoting competition, the Federal Trade Commission is now imposing more costs on businesses. They are driving up prices on consumers, and this ultimately will force inflation even higher. There is just too much cash in the economy right now with very few supplies and services available. That is what inflation is.

The FTC and the DOJ recently announced that they will be revising merger guidelines out of nowhere, out of the blue, and seem to assume that mergers harm competition and fail to realize efficiencies. Companies are also facing the FTC inquiries related to unionization and environmental and social issues, which are well outside of the agency's mission and also is not related to their responsibilities in and around upholding competition.

The FTC has also required prior approval for future deals from businesses with a previous violation; again, all of a sudden, out of the blue, effectively making them guilty without the presumption of innocence.

Even more bizarre than we could ever imagine, many of the actions have been done using so-called "zombie votes" from a commissioner who is no longer there; not even in the system. The clear intent of these actions is to discourage businesses to engage in the legal conduct of mergers.

Even former President Obama's Treasury Secretary, Larry Summers, numerous times has stated that these policies will reduce supply, which will increase prices while discouraging investment. If the FTC and the unaccountable bureaucrats at the other agencies, such as the FDIC, continue to stray from the rule of law, Americans will face higher prices.

HONORING 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MIGHTY EIGHTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 80th anniversary of the Mighty Eighth Air Force unit. The Mighty Eighth Air Force was organized in Savannah, Georgia, on January 28 in 1942. It was comprised of 48 bomber groups, 21 fighter groups, and three photo reconnaissance groups, making it the largest of its kind at the time.

The Mighty Eighth was utilized heavily over the course of World War II,

participating in primarily heavy bombardment of strategic and military targets in Nazi-occupied Europe and Germany. The Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum opened its doors in 1996, in Pooler, Georgia, during my tenure as mayor. It tells the heroic story of the Mighty Eighth, along with the story of World War II.

Featuring a B-17 project from the National Air and Space Museum, a fire truck used at Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, along with multiple other aircraft and state-of-the-art technology, the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum is a remarkable tribute to our brave soldiers.

The celebration kicked off on the 28th of January and events will be held throughout the year to celebrate this momentous occasion. I am proud to have been involved in the construction and dedication of this tribute to American heroism and want to thank the staff and supporters for making this celebration possible.

HONORING GUS BELL

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in gratitude for the service of a friend and an instrumental member of the First District of Georgia, Mr. Gus Bell.

Gus is a proud graduate of The Citadel, where he received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. From The Citadel, he continued his education at the University of Kentucky. Gus Bell has worked in every aspect of engineering, starting his career with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Virginia and Albuquerque before joining his private firm.

I am proud to call Gus Bell a friend and have had the pleasure and opportunity to work with him throughout the years. He has had an enormous impact on my career. The work that Gus has done to better the First District is nothing short of remarkable and deserves recognition.

The red brick waterfront, Rousakis Plaza, in Savannah and the I-95 corridor in Pooler are just examples of how Gus' expertise has led to growth and new development for the great State of Georgia. His commitment to his community is an inspiration, and I cherish the time we had to work together.

Gus is an example of a servant to others, and we are very grateful for his years of work and commitment. Thank you, my friend.

RECOGNIZING JEKYLL ISLAND'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Jekyll Island's 75th anniversary as a State park. Under Governor M.E. Thompson, Jekyll Island was purchased in 1947 and Jekyll authorities will be having events throughout 2022 to celebrate 75 years.

This island has been a vacation spot for Georgians across the State for decades, and it will continue to be for years to come. Recently, Jekyll has experienced increasing growth with the

construction of a hotel in 2010, parks, camp sites, public beaches, and more.

The biggest addition to Jekyll Island was conducted in 2015 with a revamped shopping center, Beach Village, hotels, and the Westin Jekyll Island opening. I had the privilege of attending the kick-off celebration, complete with fireworks and synchronized swimmers, and am excited for what the rest of 2022 has in store for Jekyll.

COVID hit the hospitality industry especially hard and Jekyll Island was no exception. Through resiliency, hard work, and a dedicated community, Jekyll Island will be back in full force and better than ever.

This great Georgia vacation spot will be back on the map as a must-see for residents and people across the country.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 11 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Many are the plans in our hearts today, O Lord, numerous agendas and schedules, lists of expectations, and countless intentions. We lay all of our efforts before You that Your purpose would prevail; that Your direction and design, Your will and aim would guide our lives.

It seems that our days are driven by overwhelming demands on our time, goals to accomplish, and deadlines to meet. We commit to You, Holy God, all that we hope to do today, that You, in Your mercy, would allow our plans to prosper.

The way seems clear in our minds; Lord, would that You establish our steps this day. May we receive the gift of Your counsel and the excellence of Your wisdom.

We pray this prayer in the certainty of Your holy name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON)